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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **Hidehiko OOTA**

Serial No.: **Not Yet Assigned**
(§371 of International Application PCT/JP04/17325)

Filed: **September 5, 2006**

For. **CHUCKING APPARATUS**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: September 5, 2006

Sir:

This is a Preliminary Amendment for the above-captioned patent application. Please amend
the above-captioned patent application as follows: